70 Collier Street
P.O. Box 400
Barrie, ON L4M 4T5

City of Barrie

Minutes - Final

International Relations Committee

Tuesday, September 7, 2021 | **6:00 PM** | **Virtual Meeting**

For consideration by the Finance and Corporate Services Committee on October 19, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Chair, D. Morrison at 6:01 p.m. The following were in attendance for the meeting:

Present: 18 -
Chairman D. Morrison - Arras France
Lieutenant Colonel J M Brault - Base Borden
Vice Chair M. Sachkiw - Japan Twinning
J. Babcock - Youth Ambassadors
B. Brookes - The Borough of Harrogate
C. Cudmore - Arras France
R. Gardiner - Japan Twinning
T. Gardiner - Japan Twinning
I. Jodoin - Arras France
L. Lalonde - Arras France
L. LeRoux - The Borough of Harrogate
H. Noguchi - Japan Twinning
J. M. Pigeon - German Twinning
P. Sachkiw - Japan Twinning
B. Sergeant - The Borough of Harrogate
K. Shirakura - Georgian College
S. Scully-Pratt - Youth Ambassadors
R. Warman - German Twinning

Absent: 5 -
Deputy Mayor B. Ward
G. Johnston - Japan Twinning
J. Laking - German Twinning
R. LeRoux - The Borough of Harrogate
L. Palson - Georgian College

STAFF:
Committee Support Clerk, T. Maynard
Manager of Parks and Forestry Operations, K. Rankin
Supervisor of Enterprise Applications, J. Mastroianni.

The International Relations Committee met and reports as follows:

COMMITTEE BUDGET

Tammie Maynard, Committee Support Clerk provided an update concerning the Committee's budget.

BARRIE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WEB PRESENCE

Ciaran Byles-Ho provided a presentation concerning the Barrie International Partners Website.

Mr. Byles-Ho discussed slides concerning the following topics:

- An outline of the layout and content of the website;
- The timeline associated with the website project; and
- The next steps.

He provided the Committee with a live demonstration of the Barrie International Partners website.

John Mastroianni, Supervisor of Enterprises Application explained that he has been working with Mr. Byles-Ho in the development of the website. Mr. Mastroianni advised that he would work with staff in Human Resources to ensure the website meets the requirements of Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability (AODA) Act.

The Committee asked a number of questions Mr. Byles-Ho, Dave Morrison and City staff and received responses.

Mr. Morrison reminded the subcommittees of Murayama, Japan, Youth Ambassadors, Harrogate, United Kingdom, Arras, France and Zweibrucken, Germany to provide content for the website regarding the City's twinning/partnerships to Ciaran Byles-Ho..

Dave Morrison, Chair advised that further updates concerning the website will take place a future meeting.

The Committee approved the expenditure of a partial honorarium payment of $1500.00 for Mr. Ciaran Byles-Ho for developing the Barrie's International Website and that a balance of $1500.00 will be paid upon the completion of the website.

GERMAN TWINNING AND GERMAN CANADIAN CLUB UPDATE

Rob Warman provided an update regarding Zweibrücken, Germany. He advised that 2022 will mark the 25th Anniversary of the City of Barrie's twinning relationship with Zweibrücken, Germany.

He mentioned that plans are to have a granite bench built and installed in the vicinity of the Southshore Centre to commemorate the occasion.

The Committee approved an expenditure of funds up to $5000.00 from the International Relations Committee cost centre 1026 500900 to purchase a granite bench to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Twinning Relationship between the City of Barrie and Zweibrücken, Germany

Kevin Rankin, Manager of Parks and Forestry Operations provided feedback on the installation and location for the commemorative bench.

JAPAN TWINNING UPDATE

Mark Sachkiw provided an update regarding Japan Twinning. He explained that Murayama, Japan has been slow getting all their residents vaccinated against the COVID-19. Mr. Sachkiw anticipates that there will be no exchanges with Murayama, Japan taking place until 2022.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS UPDATE

The Committee met and discussed the status of the Youth Ambassadors Programs as follows:

Murayama, Japan

Shannon Scully-Pratt advised that there was no update regarding the youth ambassador program for Murayama, Japan. Dave Morrison, Chair mentioned that given the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic that he felt that there would not be any youth exchanges happening until 2022.

Zweibrücken, Germany

Jamie Babcock provided an update regarding the Global Perspectives Program at Innisdale Secondary School. He advised that the application process will begin soon for those students interested in participating in the 2022 Global Perspectives Program. Mr. Babcock explained in light of the COVID-19 pandemic that the Simcoe County District School Board has held off making any decisions related to students travel to and from Zweibrücken, Germany.

HARROGATE, NORTH YORKSHIRE UNITED KINGDOM UPDATE

Bill Sergeant mentioned that he had no update to provide regarding Harrogate, North Yorkshire United Kingdom.

Mr. Sergeant provided an update regarding banners to hang in downtown Barrie during Remembrance Day and to represent the City's twinning/partnership. Mr. Sergeant mentioned that he had a discussion with staff in Access Barrie regarding the banners.

The Committee approved an expenditure of funds from the International Relations cost centre 1026 500900 in an amount up to $1800.00 to purchase 13 banners to be used in 2022 to represent the City's twinning/partnerships.

ARRAS, FRANCE UPDATE

Dave Morrison, Chair provided an update regarding Arras, France. He mentioned that the representatives of Arras, France had an interest in pursuing a youth exchange program between the two municipalities.

SIR ROBERT BARRIE PROJECT UPDATE

Bill Sergeant provided an update regarding the Sir Robert Barrie Project. Mr. Sergeant highlighted that there are future plans to present the portrait of Sir Robert Barrie to Christian Unity High School and Maple Ridge Secondary School.

Mr. Sergeant explained that a resident of London, Ontario came into possession of a flag that had been flown on the HMCS Barrie ship and that he was interested in donating to the City of Barrie. The Sir Robert Barrie Committee are coordinating with the Mayor's Office regarding the presentation of the flag.

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

CHAIRMAN